GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5591
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2001
CONSULATE OFFICES IN KARACHI AND MUMBAI
KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY;RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether visa seekers in Pakistan are facing great inconvenience following closure of Indian Consulate General in Karachi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Government has formally requested Pakistan Government to allow it to operate the visa camp office in Karachi to cater to the needs of those who are applying for Indian visa;

(d) if so, the response of the Pakistan Government thereto;

(e) whether there is any proposal to open/revive Pakistan Consulate office in Mumbai; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. There is a large demand for visas from Karachi and other places in Sindh Province. Following closure of Indian Consulate in Karachi, people from these areas have to apply for visa to our High Commission in Islamabad.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. Government of India have approached the Government of Pakistan for its consent to hold periodic visa camps at Karachi. The Government of Pakistan have requested for certain details about these camps which have been provided to it. The matter is now under the consideration of Government of Pakistan.

(e) & (f) The Government have not received any formal request from Government of Pakistan on the subject in the recent past.